

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 06262 211534Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 FBOE-00 A-01 L-03  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SY-05 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02  
/064 W

-----128372 211634Z /50

P R 211515Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5381  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
AMEMBASSY SANA

S E C R E T LONDON 06262

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PGOV, YS  
SUBJECT: PDRY DEMANDS AMERICAN EMBASSY BUILDING IN ADEN

1. ASSUME DEPT (NEA/ARP) HAS BEEN INFORMED BY  
BRITISH EMBASSY OF FORMAL NOTE FROM PDRY TO BRITISH  
EMBASSY IN ADEN INFORMING BRITISH OF PDRY "INTENTION  
TO RECOVER" SITE OF US EMBASSY BUILDING IN ADEN  
TOGETHER WITH BUILDING. NOTE ASKED BRITISH EMBASSY  
TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO BE PRESENT DURING OPERATION  
OF RECOVERY. IN HANDING OVER NOTE, SHADLI IN FOREIGN  
MINISTRY TOLD BRITISH CHARGE THAT "WHEN AMERICANS  
RETURNED AN EQUIVALENT CHANCERY BUILDING AND ALL  
NECESSARY RESIDENCES WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE."

2. IN HIS REPORTING TELEGRAM, THE BRITISH CHARGE  
COMMENTED THAT THE SITE IS A MOST DESIRABLE ONE,  
WORTH HANGING ON TO, BUT THAT "I JUDGE THERE IS  
NO ROOM FOR MANEUVER, THE SITE WILL BE TAKEN OVER."  
CHARGE NOTES THERE ARE STILL ITEMS OF FURNITURE,  
REFRIGERATORS, ETC. IN THE BUILDING, AND THAT THE  
BRITISH WILL HAVE IT INSPECTED BY A BRITISH BUILDINGS

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EXPERT BASED IN JIDDA SOON AFTER APRIL 20.

3. COMMENT: EARLIER THIS MONTH EMBOFF MET WITH  
ROBERTS WHO HAD JUST COMPLETED HIS TOUR OF DUTY AS  
CHARGE OF BRITISH EMBASSY IN ADEN. ROBERTS HAD  
FORESEEN THAT PDRY WOULD TRY TO GRAB THE BUILDING  
AND RECOMMENDED TO US THAT WE RESIST THE GRAB BECAUSE

OF THE BUILDING'S EXCELLENT LOCATION. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE BRITISH ASSUME THAT EVERY WESTERN EMBASSY BUILDING AND RESIDENCE HAS BEEN "BUGGED" BY THE PDRY AUTHORITIES, WHO HAVE BEEN TAUGHT BY THE EAST GERMAN SECURITY TEAM.

4. EMBOFF ASKED BEAUMONT IF LATTER THOUGHT PDRY HAD SOME ULTERIOR MOTIVE IN RAISING THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME. BEAUMONT SPECULATED THAT PDRY MIGHT HAVE DONE SO IN ORDER TO OBLIGE USG TO FOCUS MORE IMMEDIATELY ON ISSUE OF RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

5. IF WE WERE EVENTUALLY TO RESTORE RELATIONS WITH PDRY, THIS LATEST MOVE BY PDRY WOULD APPEAR TO RAISE LEGAL AND SECURITY AS WELL AS DIPLOMATIC QUESTIONS FOR US. ON THE LEGAL SIDE, PDRY HAS SIGNED THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS (BUT OFTEN IGNORES IT). FOR SY SIDE, SEE SEPTTEL. AMONG ALUMNI OF ADEN NOW IN THE DEPARTMENT WHO CAN PROVIDE FURTHER JUDGMENTS ARE AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY STERNER. OUR LAST CHARGE, EAGLETON, IS OR WAS AT THE FSO ARABIC SCHOOL IN EMBASSY TUNIS.

STREATOR

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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